Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 10399 011552Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 BIB-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 L-03 H-02 SP-02 /032 W ------ 039357

P 011250Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0349 USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, IN

SUBJECT: A/DCM MEETING WITH MEA PRESS OFFICER: US PRESS AND VOA

- 1. A/DCM MET WITH MEA JOINT SECRETARY (PRESS) HAKSAR AT LATTER'S REQUEST AUG. 1. SUBJECT WAS NOT RPT NOT VOA AS WE HAD SPECULATED BUT A QUERY AMBASSADOR HAD PUT TO FONSEC TWO WEEKS EARLIER ON PRESS CRITICISM OKQUS. (KRIESBERG-KUX OFF-INF AUG 1 DESCRIBES THIS IN DETAIL.) HAKSAR OBSERVED AT END OF MEETING THAT HE NOW HAD THE QUESTION OF VOA CORRESPONDENT ON HIS DESK, THAT MATTER WAS "VERY COMPLICATED," THAT HE WOULD BE BACK TO EMBASSY LATER, BUT THAT GOI HAD NOTHING TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT AT THE PRESENT TIME. (COMMENT: WE NOTE THIS WITH SOME TEMPORARY RELIEF AND SATISFACTION, BUT ARE PROCEEDING WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR VOA LOCAL HARI KAPOOR TO LEAVE ON TDY FOR WASHINGTON IN NEXT FEW DAYS.)
- 2. A/DCM ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT LONG DELAY IN GOI'S RETURNING OF WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT LOU SIMON'S NOTEBOOKS, CUT-OFF OF TELEPHONES OF AP THIS WEEK AND REFUSAL OF INTERNATIONAL CALL RIGHTS TO POST CORRESPONDENT FROM HIS RESIDENCE. HE DESCRIBED THESE AS IRRITATING HARASSMENTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS, REGARD-LESS OF THEIR PROFESSION. HAKSAR EMPHASIZED THAT AP LINES HAD BEEN RESTORED AND HAD LONG EXPLANATION ABOUT POST PROBLEM WHICH APPARENTLY WENT BACK TO ACTION TAKEN AFTER SIMON'S DEPORTATION ORDER AND NOT SINCE RESCINDED. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 10399 011552Z

3. AP (CODY) AND TIMES (BORDERS) CORRESPONDENTS WERE PICKED UP BY POLICE JULY 31 ON CAMPUS OF DELHI UNIV WHILE INTERVIEWING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND WAITING FOR APPOINTMENT WITH VICE-CHANCELLOR. THEY WERE HELD FOR AN HOUR AT POLICE STATION.

A/DCM PROTESTED THIS TO HAKSAR AS IMPROPER AND OBJECTIONABLE SINCE NEWSMEN WERE FULLY DOCUMENTED AND WERE IN NO WAY VIOLATING DELHI OR GOI REGULATIONS. HAKSAR SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE INCIDENT AND WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

4. COMMENT: ALL FRIENDLY ENOUGH, BUT NOT MUCH IN THE WAY OF RESULTS. SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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